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SUBJECT: STATEMENT FROM GOVERNMENT LEADER FOR ANNIVERSARY ISSUE OF "EXCHANGE" MAGAZINE

REF: STATE 049262 VIENNA 3235

CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S STATEMENT FOR EXCHANGE ANNIVERSARY ISSUE FOLLOWS: SINCE THE END OF THE SECOND WARLD WAR, THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT ONLY PLAYED A LEADING MILITARY AND POLITICAL ROLE BUT HAS ALSO BECOME ONE OF THE CULTURAL WORLD POWERS. SCIENCE IN AMERICA HAS DEVELOPED AT AN UNPRECEDENTED PACE; THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HAS HAD A MAJOR INPACT ON UNIVERSITY LIFE IN EUROPE; A GREAT NUMBER OF MODERN AUTHORS AND POETS, AMONG THEM SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS PLAYWRIGHTS, HAVE BEEN AMERICANS. EUROPE, DEVASTATED BY WAR AND A CULTURAL WASTELAND AS A CON-SEQUENCE OF THE LONG YEARS OF HITLER'S DICTATORSHIP, NEEDED AND WAS OPEN TO THE CULTURAL MEMENTUM IMPARTED BY AMERICA. TENS OF THOUSANDS OF EUROPEANS WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH ITS CULTURAL LIFE. EUROPEAN POLITICAL LEADERS ESTABLISHED CONTACT WITH THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS. THEY WERE ABLE TO LAY THE BASIS FOR A NEW AND EXPANDING UNDERSTANDING OF EUROPEAN PROBLEMS. THIS INTENSE COOPERATION WHICH HAD NEVER EXISTED BEFORE HAS PROVEN TO BE EMINENTLY IMPORTANT AND FRUITFUL. I WOULD THEREFORE WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO ALL AMERICANS WHO HAVE WORKED TOWARDS THE SUCCESS OF THIS CULTURAL EXCHANGE. THEY HAVE CON-TRIBUTED IMMEASURABLY TO THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITED STATES AND EUROPE. BUCHANAN

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